

Message Text

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11

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
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R 181448Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0046
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 2408

STATE FOR CU/ARTS, CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C;
USIA FOR IEU,

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: CULTURAL PRESENTATION: AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATRE

1. ACT ADVANCE TEAM COMPLETED EXTENSIVE SURVEY OF SITES
AND DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOSKONTsert DURING
FEBRUARY EIGHT - SEVENTEEN STAY IN SOVIET UNION.
TEAM HAS DRAFT CONTRACT AND WILL DISCUSS WITH DEPT UPON
RETURN. ADDITIONAL COPIES POUCHED UNDER REGISTRY NUMBER
1622864 TO CU/ARTS AND ALSO SENT TO LENINGRAD.

2. GROUP PROPOSED FOLLOWING TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:
MONDAY, MAY 24 ARRIVE MOSCOW
TUESDAY, MAY 25 SET UP AT THEATER, FREE DAY FOR
CAST. POSSIBLE LUNCHEON RECEPTION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 26 DAY AND EVENING REHEARSAL
THURSDAY, MAY 27 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY, MAY 28 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
SATURDAY, MAY 29 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
SUNDAY, MAY 30 MATINEE, EVENING PERFORMANCES
MONDAY, MAY 31 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
TUESDAY, JUNE 1 FREE DAY
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
THURSDAY, JUNE 3 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY, JUNE 4 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
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SATURDAY, JUNE 5 16:00 SET UP FOR EVENING PERFORMANCE

SUNDAY, JUNE 6 MATINEE, EVENING PERFORMANCE
MONDAY, JUNE 7 FREE DAY, MIDNIGHT TRAIN TO
 LENINGRAD
TUESDAY, JUNE 8 SET UP AT THEATER, CAST IS FREE.
 CONGEN RECEPTION
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9 DAY SET UP, EVENING REHEARSAL
THURSDAY, JUNE 10 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY, JUNE 11 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
SATURDAY, JUNE 12 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
SUNDAY, JUNE 13 MATINEE, EVENING PERFORMANCE
MONDAY, JUNE 14 FREE DAY, EVENING TRAVEL TO RIGA
TUESDAY, JUNE 15 SET UP THEATRE, CAST IS FREE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16 DAY SET UP, EVENING REHEARSAL
THURSDAY, JUNE 17 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY, JUNE 18 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
SATURDAY, JUNE 19 DAY REHEARSAL, EVENING PERFORMANCE
SUNDAY, JUNE 20 MATINEE, EVENING PERFORMANCES
MONDAY, JUNE 21 FREE DAY, EVENING TRAIN TO MOSCOW
TUESDAY, JUNE 22 DEPART FOR US

3. GOSKONTSERT REQUESTS TWENTY-TWO PERFORMANCES BE
EXPANDED TO TWENTY-FOUR BY ADDING EVENING PERFORMANCES
ON JUNE NINE AND SIXTEEN. TEAM AGREED TO CONSIDER THIS
AND INFORM GOSKONTSERT NLT MARCH TWENTY.

4. CHOICE OF RIGA AS THIRD CITY NECESSITATED BY IMPOSSI-
BILITY OF AIR-SHIPPING SETS, PROPS AND COSTUMES TO
ALMA ATA AND UNAVAILABILITY OF THEATERS ELSEWHERE.

5. TEAM VIGOROUSLY SOUGHT ACCEPTANCE OF "SHREW" AS
THIRD PLAY. GOSKONTSERT EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT
IN LIGHT INCREASE IN COMPLEXITY OF TOUR AND WIEHT OF SETS,
PROPERTIES AND CUSTUMES. EMB STRONGLY RESTATED ITS AND DEPT
POSITION THAT ONLY "DESIRE" AND "MATCHMAKER" ACCEPTED. HOWEVER
ACT STILL LOBBING FOR "SHREW", DESPITE FLAT "NO"
RECEIVED FROM EMBASSY AND GOSKONTSERT. TEAM POINTS
OUT AHT ABOVE SCHEDULED TWENTY-TWO (OR TWENTY-FOUR)
PERFORMANCE SCHEDLE IS MAXIMUM ACT CAN DO AND IF
"SHREW" TO BE PERFORMED AS SUPPLEMENT, IT WILL BE ONE
OF THESE. THIS ISSUE MUST BE RESOLVED ASAP BY
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DEPT AND ACT MANAGEMENT AS SPECIFIC PLAYS IN PERFORMANCE
SCHEDULE AND CAST LISTS NEEDED URGENTLY BY GOSKONTSERT
FOR PROGRAM PUBLICATION. EMBASSY REMAINS
OPPOSED INCLUSION "SHREW" IN ACT SOVIET TOUR.

6. NOTE THAT FIFTY-TWO PERSONS IN TOUR SPECIFIED
ARTICLE I OF DRAFT CONTRACT IS NUMBER INSERTED BY ACT
AND IS PROBABLY BASED ON THEIR HOPE TO BRING "SHREW".

NUMBER ACTUALLY NEEDED PROBABLY TWO OR THREE
FEWER. NUMBER CAN BE REDUCED FURTHER BY INCLUSION
SOVIET ACTORS FOR WALK-ON ROLES. GOSKONTSERT HAS AGREED
TO THIS AND AWAITS NOTICE FROM ACT OF APPROVAL AND
DETAILS OF ROLES INVOLVED.
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